

Appl. No. 10/623,546
Amdt, dated May 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 4, 2005

II. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces without prejudice all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A barrier of variable dimensions configured for inhibiting an ingress and egress of insects with respect to an adjacent entrance, the barrier comprising;

a substantially planar closed frame including a plurality of interconnecting first and second members for defining an opening, at least some of the members configured for adjustment in length to conform the peripheral dimension of the assembled frame to those of the adjacent entrance;

((a)) the first member of the plurality of interconnecting members having a base having first and second edge portions, the first and second edge portions being folded toward each other to form and a pair of tabs ~~extending from the base~~ to provide a female connector;

((a)) the second member of the plurality of interconnecting members having a pair of flanges providing a male connector configured for being received by the female connector for coupling the first member and the second member to one another, such that when received the pair of flanges for overlapping overlap with the pair of tabs of an adjacent ~~said first member for coupling said first member and the second member to one another~~;

a plurality of ~~respective~~ channel portions attached to at least some of the members, the channel portions configured for providing a continuous channel disposed intermediate the first and second edge portions, the continuous channel extending around the closed frame once assembled; and

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the continuous channel ~~an insect screen~~ configured for attachment to an insect screen ~~the continuous channel~~ for covering the defined opening of the closed frame.

2. (Currently Amended) The barrier of claim 1, wherein the overlap of the tabs and the flanges is compressible for providing frictional engagement between ~~an inside surface of the tabs and an outside surface of the flanges~~, the frictional engagement for inhibiting separation of the first member and the second member once assembled.
3. (Original) The barrier of claim 2 further comprising a supplementary fastener for the overlap of the tabs and flanges, the fastener selected from the group comprising mechanical fasteners and an adhesive.
4. (Original) The barrier of claim 3, wherein the mechanical fastener is selected from the group comprising; crimping, welding, bolts, rivets, nails, staples, and screws.
5. (Currently Amended) The barrier of claim 1 ~~further comprising wherein~~ the continuous channel having an entrance facing the interior of the assembled frame, the entrance opens on to the defined opening and is configured for inhibiting damage to the adjacent screen.
6. (Original) The barrier of claim 5, wherein the first member is a corner member and the second member is a side member.

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7. (Original) The barrier of claim 6, wherein the length of the side member is variable.
8. (Original) The barrier of claim 7, wherein the plurality of interconnecting members includes four right angled corner members and at least four side members to provide a four sided frame once assembled.
9. (Currently Amended) The barrier of claim 5 ~~further comprising said~~ wherein the channel portion is an extension of one of said the tabs.
10. (Original) The barrier of claim 5, wherein the second member is a key member for joining two adjacent first members, the key having a male connector on each end.
11. (Original) The barrier of claim 5, wherein the second member is a corner member and the first member is a side member.
12. (Original) The barrier of claim 11, wherein the male connector is a key member connected to a base of the corner member at one end and having a male connector at the other end.
13. (Original) The barrier of claim 10, wherein the key member provides for an abutment of said channel portions on adjacent first members.

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14. (Currently Amended) A kit for providing a barrier of variable dimensions configurable to conform to the peripheral dimension of an adjacent entrance, the barrier comprising;

a plurality of substantially planar members configured for interconnection to form a substantially planar closed frame defining an opening, at least some of the members being variable in length;

at least one first member of the plurality of members having a base having first and second edge portions being folded toward each other to form a and pair of tabs ~~extending from the base~~ to provide a female connector;

at least one second member of the plurality of members having a pair of flanges providing a male connector configured for being received by the female connector, the pair of flanges for interacting with the pair of tabs of an adjacent said first member for coupling the first member and the second member to one another;

a plurality of channel portions, each of the channel portions attached to a respective one of the members, the channel portions configured for providing a continuous channel disposed intermediate the first and second edge portions, the continuous channel extending around the closed frame once assembled.

15. (Original) The kit of claim 14 further comprising an insect screen configured for attachment to the continuous channel for covering the defined opening of the closed frame, wherein the assembled said frame and said screen inhibit an ingress and egress of insects when installed adjacent to the entrance.

16. (Currently Amended) The kit of claim 15, wherein the kit provides a barrier that is configurable to conform to an adjacent entrance ~~the adjacent opening that~~ is a catch basin opening.

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17. (New) The barrier of claim 1, wherein the adjacent entrance with respect to which the barrier is configured is a catch basin entrance.
18. (New) The barrier of claim 1, wherein the plurality of interconnecting first and second members form a continuous flange extending around the closed frame once assembled.
19. (New) The kit of claim 14, wherein the plurality of first and second members are configured to form a continuous flange extending around the closed frame once assembled.
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